



Volunteers helping those with Hansen Disease in China

The Don Bosco Family in China have turned their attention first of all to all the poor and sick, especially those who because of this disease, have always lived on the margins of society. Hansen Disease (HD), also called Leprosy, is a chronic infectious disease that mainly affects the skin, nerves, the mucus of the upper respiratory tract, and the eyes. Leprosy can lead to progressive permanent damage, thus resulting in devastating disfigurement and disability. It has resulted in the historical social stigma and isolation (leper colonies) of those affected by the disease. This project of prevention of disabilities and rehabilitation for people affected by HD began 10 years ago in the region of Guangdong, and is directed almost exclusively to the treatment of ulcers due to leprosy. Through increased training and a better knowledge of this disease, the service is extended to several others areas.



Presently our goal is to provide medical and social rehabilitation of people suffering from HD, specifically: the treatment of ulcers, general medical care service, amputation service, orthopedic service through special protective footwear and prostheses, eye care service, and training for all those working in this field.

“Our style of work is to live together with these affected people: a living testimony that leprosy is not a fearful disease that makes people untouchable and cursed by God and then to take away from the community.”

Our team is composed of volunteers from Hong Kong, Macau and local Chinese professional nurses. It is living in these villages located in strategic places: a way to provide care to those who live not only in villages where our staff lives but also in surroundings, a kind of network to cover the whole region of Guangdong.



Please fold, tear and return with your gift.

Yes, I want to provide support for Leprosy in China.

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We have opened more centers that provide these services; to receive better care for those who are being treated for leprosy or for those who, after amputation of a limb, may have no one to take care of them by providing, for example, a suitable prosthesis. This is very important if we want these people to return to live in the society.



“A note worth making: some family members and friends of these people, who had left them for fear of the disease, now can share with us the traditional Chinese and Christian celebrations in the village.”

The news of our service is spreading throughout the region of Guangdong and other regions: a diffusion that has led more and more sick people to ask for help at our centers and to spend some time in order to receive adequate care.

We have a contract with hospitals in the region, where we can bring the people requiring special care; some of the expenses are supported by the hospital and part by the Don Bosco Family we hope that in future some benefactors can help us to support these expenses.

In these years many people have turned to our services, people who have spent most of their lives in suffering and difficulty. Surely it makes us happy to know that their lives are changed for the better.

On behalf of the Don Bosco Mission Office and the Don Bosco Family we would like to extend to you our heartfelt appreciation and our warmest wishes for a joyous Christmas.

Thank you for your generous donation!

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